

# NIGHT RIDING

Nighttime operation can be dangerous because a rider's ability to see and be seen by fellow motor vehicle operators is limited. It is recommended that riders adjust their riding behavior to compensate for this limited visibility. This adjustment includes reducing cycle speed, maximizing headlight usage, and increasing following distance. This cautious riding strategy will provide riders with an opportunity to safely pass obstacles and traffic hazards that may interfere with safe operation.

Massachusetts law requires riders to use their headlights from one-half ( $\frac{1}{2}$ ) hour after sunset to one-half ( $\frac{1}{2}$ ) hour before sunrise.



# GETTING OFF THE ROAD

Rider fatigue, equipment adjustments, mechanical defects, and traffic emergencies may force a rider to get off the road. Good riders keep a watchful eye on traffic conditions while safely making their way to the roadside. Riders should be certain to signal motor vehicles traveling behind of their intention to change lanes or direction.

Experienced riders will scan roadside surfaces to determine if the terrain is firm enough to safely ride on. Slowing motorcycle speed when entering soft shoulders and grass medians will enable riders to maintain cycle balance and control.

Once safely off the road, position the cycle as far as possible from travel lanes to avoid being struck by passing motor vehicles. To prevent the cycle from tipping, use added caution when setting the cycle's kick-stand on sloped shoulders and soft surfaces.